

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please delete the Abstract appearing in the front page of the PCT publication and add the following new Abstract:

The invention relates to the compression coding of digital signals such as multimedia signals (audio or video), and more particularly a method for multiple coding, wherein several encoders each comprising a series of functional blocks receive an input signal in parallel. According to the invention, a) the functional blocks (BF10, , BF<sub>n</sub>N) forming each encoder are identified, along with one or several functions carried out of each block, b) functions which are common to various encoders are itemized and c) said common functions are carried out definitively for a part of at least all of the encoders within at least one same calculation module. (BF1CC, , BF<sub>n</sub>CC).

A replacement Abstract is attached hereto on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.72.